09/213,613

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Gupta et al.

Serial No.:

09/213,613 December 18, 1998

Filed: For:

MESSAGING MECHANISM FOR INTER PROCESSOR

COMMUNICATION

Art Unit:

2154

Examiner:

Andrew Caldwell

AMENDMENT

BOX AMENDMENT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the below amendment and remarks in response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2001. Replacement sheets are attached to this amendment.

In the claims:

1. A messaging mechanism for inter-processor communication comprising:

a shared service processor providing a single point of contact for a user interfacing with at least one line processor, the [shared] service processor in electrical communication with shared memory including mailboxes operable to enable communication between the at least one line processor and the service processor; wherein

the service processor is operable to selectively deliver commands to a respective mailbox of a selected one of said at least one line processor, and

the service processor is sclectively operable to issue a system management interrupt to any or all of the at least one line processors, the interrupt signal[1]ing to the at least one line processor to access a respective mailbox in the shared memory.